

in the parent application Serial No. 08/672,378 and the parent application Serial No. 08/967,136.

REQUEST FOR RETURN OF FULLY INITIALED COPY OF FORM PTO-1449

The Examiner is respectfully requested to return a copy of the Form PTO-1449 filed January 24, 2000 and to indicate thereon that the cited publications were considered and made of record.

R E M A R K S

Restriction was requested under 35 USC 121 as follows:

Group I. Claims 1-15, 30-39 and 41 drawn to a method of shaping a semisolid metal comprising crystal nuclei and to apparatus for producing semisolid metal;

Group II. Claims 16-29 and 42 drawn to a method of shaping a semisolid metal comprising aging by using a holding vessel and to an apparatus for producing semisolid metal; and

Group III. Claims 42-57 drawn to a method of shaping a semisolid metal comprising a crystal grain refiner.

Applicants elect Group I (claims 1 to 15, 30 to 39 and 41).

It is noted that the Examiner classified Groups I and III in the same class, namely class 164. It is therefore respectfully requested that Groups I and III be combined into a single Group.

Sep. 30. 2002 12:23PM

FRISHAUF & PARTNERS

No. 7339 P. 4/6
From: BARTH

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME